A REMONSTRANCE OF THE STATE OF THE KINGDOM.

Die Mercurii 15. *Decemb.* 1641.

It is this day Resolv'd upon the Question, By the House of

COMMONS,

That Order shall be now given for the Printing of this *Remonstrance*, of the State of the KINGDOM.

Newly corrected according to the Original Copy.

H. Elsinge Cler. Parl. D. Com.

LONDON,
Printed for *Ioseph Hunscutt*. 1641.

A REMONSTRANCE OF THE STATE OF THE KINGDOM.

The Remonſtrance.

THe *Commons* in this preſent Parliament Aſſembled, having with much earneſtneſſe, and faithfulneſſe of affection, and zeal to the publike good of this Kingdom, and His Majeſties honour and ſervice, for the ſpace of twelve months, wraſtled with the great dangers and fears, the preſſing miſeries and calamities, the various diſtempers and diſorders, which had not only aſſaulted; but even overwhelmed and extinguiſht the liberty, peace, and proſperity of this Kingdom, the comfort and hopes of all His Majeſties good Subjects, and exceedingly weakned and undermined the foundation, and ſtrength of his own Royall Throne; Do yet finde an abounding Malignity, and oppoſition in thoſe parties, and factions, who have been the cauſe of thoſe evils, and do ſtill labour to caſt aſperſions, upon that which hath been done, and to raiſe many difficulties for the hinderance of that which remains yet undone, and to foment Jealouſies, betwixt the King, and the Parliament; That ſo they may deprive him, and his people, of the fruit of his own Gracious Intentions, and their humble deſires of procuring the publike peace, ſafety, and happineſſe of this Realm. For the preventing of thoſe miſerable effects, which ſuch malicious endeavours may produce, We have thought good to declare,

1. *The Root, and the growth of theſe miſchievous deſignes.*

2. *The Maturity and Ripeneſſe, to which they have attained before the beginning of the Parliament.*

3. *The effectuall means which have been uſed for the extirpations of thoſe dangerous evils, and the Progreſſe which hath therein been made by His Majeſties goodneſſe, and the Wiſedome of the Parliament.*

4. *The wayes of obſtruction, and oppoſition, by which that Progreſſe hath been interrupted.*

5. *The courſes to be taken for the removing thoſe Obſtacles, and for the accompliſhing of our moſt dutifull, and faithfull intentions, and endeavours, of reſtoring and eſtabliſhing the Ancient Honour, Greatneſſe, and Security of this Crown, and Nation. The Root of all this miſchief, We finde to be a malignant, and pernicious deſigne, of ſubverting the Fundamentall Laws, and Principles of Government; upon which the Religion, and Juſtice of this Kingdom, are firmly eſtabliſht. The Actors and Promotors hereof have been,*

1. *The Jeſuited Papiſts who hate the Laws, as the Obſtacles of that change, and Subverſion of Religion, which they ſo much long for.*

2. *The Biſhops, and the corrupt part of the Clergie, who cheriſh formality, and ſuperſtition, as the naturall effects, and more probable ſupports of their own Eccleſiaſticall Tyranny, and Uſurpation.*

3. *Such Councellors and Courtiers, as for private ends have engaged themſelves, to further the intereſts of ſome forraign Princes, or States, to the prejudice of His Majeſty, and the State at home.*

The common Principles, by which they moulded and governed all their particular Councells and Actions, were theſe.

Firſt, To maintain continuall differences, and diſcontents betwixt the King, and the People, upon Queſtions of Prerogative, and liberty, that ſo they might have the advantage of ſideing with him, and under the notions of men, addicted to his ſervice, gain to them; ſelves, and their parties, the places of greateſt truſt and power in the Kingdom.

A Second, To ſuppreſſe the purity and power of Religion, and ſuch as were beſt affected to it; as being contrary to their own ends, and the greateſt impediment to that change, which they thought to introduce.

A Third, To conjoyn thoſe parties of the Kingdom, which were moſt propitious to their own ends, and to divide thoſe who were moſt oppoſite, which conſiſted in many particular obſervations; to cheriſh the Arminian part in thoſe points, wherein they agree with the Papiſts, to multiply and enlarge the differences betwixt the common Proteſtants, and thoſe whom they call Puritans, to introduce and counte-

nance

rance such opinions and Ceremonies, as are fittest for accommodation with Popery, to encrease and maintain ignorance, looseneſſe, and prophaneneſſe in the people: That of those three parties, Papists, Arminians, and Libertines, they might compose a body fit to act such Counsels and resolutions, as were most conducible to their own ends.

A Fourth, To disaffect the King to Parliaments by slanders, and false imputations, and by putting him upon other wayes of supply, which in shew and appearance were fuller of advantage, then the ordinary course of Subsidies, though in truth they brought more losse then gain, both to the King and people, and have caused the great distractions, under which we both suffer.

As in all compounded bodies, the Operations are qualified according to the predominant Element; So in this mixt party, the Jesuited Counsels being most active, and prevailing, may easily be discovered to have had the greatest sway in all their determinations, and if they be not prevented, are likely to devour the rest, or to turn them into their own nature.

In the beginning of His Majesties reign, the party begun to revive and flourish again, having been somewhat dampt by the breach with *Spain* in the last yeer of King *James*, and by His Majesties marriage with *France*; the interests and Councels of that State, being not so contrary to the good of Religion, and the prosperity of this Kingdom, as those of *Spain*; and the Papists of *England* having been ever more addicted to *Spain*, then *France*; yet they still retained a purpose, and resolution to weaken the Protestant parties in all parts, and even in *France*, whereby to make way for the change of Religion, which they intended at home.

The first effect and evidence of their recovery and strength was, the dissolution of the Parliament at *Oxford*, after there had been given two Subsidies to His Majesty; and before they received relief in any one Grievance, many other more miserable effects followed.

The losse of the *Rochel* Fleet, by the help of our Shipping, set forth and delivered over to the *French*, in opposition to the advice of Parliament, which left that Town without defence by

Sea, and made way not only to the losse of that important place, but likewise to the losse of all the strength and security of the Protestant Religion in *France*.

The diverting of His Majesties course of warres from the West-*Indies*, which was the most facile and hopefull way for this Kingdom to prevail against the Spaniard, to an expensefull and successeleese attempt upon *Cales*, which was so ordered, as if it had rather been intended to make us weary of Warre, then to prosper in it.

The precipitate breach which *France* by taking their Ships to a great value, without making recompence to the *English*, whose goods were thereupon imbar'd, and confiscate in that Kingdom.

The peace with *Spain* without consent of Parliament, contrary to the promise of King *James* to both Houses; whereby the *Palatine* Cause was diserted, and left to chargeable and hopeless Treaties, which, for the most part, were managed by those, who might justly be suspected to be no friends to that Cause.

The charging of the Kingdom with Billetted Souldiers in all parts of it, and that Concomitant designe of *Germane* horse, that the Land might either submit with fear, or be enforced with rigour to such Arbitrary Contributions, as should be required of them.

The dissolving of the Parliament in the second yeer of His Majesties raign, after a Declaration of their intent, to grant five Subsidies.

The exacting of the like proportion of five Subsidies after the Parliament dissolved, by Commission of Loan; and divers Gentlemen and others imprisoned for not yeilding to pay that Loan, whereby many of them contracted such sicknesses, as cost them their lives. Great summes of Money required, and raised by Privy Seals. An unjust and pernicious attempt to extort great payments from the Subject, by way of Excise; and a Commission issued under Seal to that purpose. The Petition of Right, which was granted in full Parliament, blasted with an illegall Declaration, to make it destructive to it self, to the power of Parliament, to the Liberty of the Subject, and to that purpose printed with it; and the Petition made of no use, but to shew the bold

and

and presumptuous injustice of such Ministers as durst break the Laws, and suppresse the Liberties of the Kingdom, after they had been so solemnly and evidently declared.

Another Parliament dissolved, 4 *Car.* the priviledge of Parliament broken, by imprisoning divers Members of the House, detaining them close prisoners for many moneths together, without the liberty of using Books, Pen, Inke, or Paper, denying them all the comforts of life, all means of preservation of health, not permitting their wives to come unto them, even in time of their sickneſſe. And for the compleating of that cruelty, after yeers spent in such miserable durance, depriving them of the necessary means of Spirituall consolation, not suffering them to go abroad to enjoy Gods Ordinances, in Gods House, or Gods Ministers to come to them, to administer comfort unto them in their private Chambers: and to keep them still in this oppressed condition, not admitting them to be bayled according to Law, yet vexing them with Informations in inferiour Courts, sentencing and fining some of them for matters done in Parliament, and extorting the payments of those Fines from them, enforcing others to put in security of good behaviour, before they could be released.

The imprisonment of the rest which refused to be bound, still continued; which might have been perpetuall, if necessity had not, the last yeer, brought another Parliament to relieve them; of whom, one died, by the cruelty and harshneſſe of his imprisonment, which would admit of no relaxation, notwithstanding the imminent danger of his life, did sufficiently appear by the declaration of his Physitian: And his releaſe, or at least, his refreshment, was sought by many humble Petitions. And his bloud still cries either for vengeance, or repentance of those Ministers of State, who are at once obstructed the course, both of his Majesties Justice and Mercy.

Upon the dissolution of both these Parliaments, untrue and scandalous declarations published, to asperse their proceedings, and some of their Members, unjustly to make them odious, and colour the violence which was used against them. Proclamations set out to the same purpose; and to the great dejecting of the harts of the people, forbidding them, even to speak of Parliaments.

After the breach of the Parliament, in the fourth yeer of His Majesty, Injustice, Oppression, and Violence, broke in upon us, without any restraint or moderation; and yet the first project, was the great summs exacted thorow the whole Kingdom, for default of Knight-hood, which seemed to have some colour and shadow of a Law; yet if it be rightly examined by that obsolete Law which was pretended for it, it would be found to be against all the rules of Justice, both in respect of the persons charged, the proportion of the Fines demanded, and the absurd and unreasonable manner of their proceedings. Tonnage and Poundage hath been received without colour or pretence of Law; many other heavy impositions continued against Law; and some so unreasonable, that the summe of the charge, exceeds the value of the Goods. The Book of Rates lately inhanced to a high proportion; and such Merchants as would not submit to their illegall and reasonable payments, were vexed and oppressed above measure; and the ordinary course of Justice, the common Birth-right of the Subject of *England*, wholly obstructed unto them. And although all this was taken upon pretence of guarding the Sea, yet a new and unheard of Tax of Ship-money was devised, upon the same pretence. By both which, there was charged upon the Subject neer 700000 l. some yeers; and yet the Merchants have been left so naked to the violence of the Turkish Pyrats, that many great Ships of value, and thousands of His Maiesties Subiects have been taken by them, and do still remain in miserable slavery.

The enlargement of Forrests, contrary to *Charta de Foresta*, and the composition thereupon. The exactions of Coat and Conduct money, and divers other Military charges. The taking away the Arms of the Trained Bands of divers Counties. The desperate design of engrossing all the Gun-powder into one hand, keeping it in the Tower of *London*, and setting so high a Rate upon it, that the poorer sort were not able to buy it, nor could any have it without License; thereby to leave the severall parts of the Kingdom destitute of their necessary defence; and by selling so dear that which was sold, to make an unlawfull advantage of it, to the great charge and detriment of the Subiect, the generall destruction of the Kings Timber, especially that in the Forrest of *Dean*, sold to Papists, which was the best Store-house

of this Kingdom, for the maintenance of our Shipping. The taking away of mens right, under colour of the Kings title to Land between high and low water-Marks. The Monopolies of Sope, Salt, Wine, Leather, Sea-Cole, and, in a manner, of all things of most common and necessary use. The restraint of the Liberties of the Subiects in their habitation, Trades, and other Interest. Their vexation and oppression by Purveyors, Clerks of the Market, and Salt-Peeter-men. The sale of pretended Nuzances, as Buildings in and about *London*, conversion of Arable into Pasture, continuance of Pasture, under the name of depopulation, have drawn many Millions out of the Subiects Purses, without any considerable profit to his Majesty. Large quantities of Common, and several Grounds, have been taken from the Subiect, by colour of the Statute of Improvement, and by abuse of the Commission of Sewers, without their consent, and against it. And not only private Interest, but also publike faith have been broken, in seizing of the money and Bullion in the Mint; and the whole Kingdom like to be rob'd at once, in that abominable project of Brasse Money. Great numbers of his Majesties Subiects, for refusing those unlawfull charges, have been vext with long and expensive Suits; some fined and confined, others committed to long and hard imprisonments and restraints, to the losse of health of many, of life in some; and others have had their houses broken up, their goods seized, some have been restrained from their lawfull Callings. Ships have been interrupted in their Voyages, imprized at Sea in an Hostile manner, by Projectors, as by a common Enemy. Merchants prohibited to unlade their goods in such Ports, as were for their own advantage, and forced to bring them to those places which were most for the advantages of the Monopolizers and Projectors. The Court of Starchamber hath abounded in extravagant censures not only for the maintenance and improvement of Monopolies, and other unlawfull taxes; but for divers other Causes, where there hath been no offence, or very small; whereby his Majesties Subiects have been oppressed by grievous Fines, Imprisonments, Stigmatizings, Mutilations, Whippings, Pillories, Gags, Confinements, Banishments; after so rigid a manner, as hath not only deprived men of the society of their friends, exercise of their professions, comfort of Books, use of Paper or Inke, but even violated that neer Union which God

hath eſtabliſht betwixt Men and their Wives, by forced and conſtrained ſeparation; whereby they have been bereaved of the comfort and converſation one of another, for many yeers together, without hope of relief; if God had not by his over-ruling Providence, given ſome interruption to the prevailing power, and Counſell of thoſe, who were the Authors and Promoters of ſuch peremptory and headdy courſes.

Judges have been put out of their places, for refuſing to do againſt their Oaths, and Conſciences: Others have been ſo awed, that they durſt not do their duties, and the better to hold a rod over them, the Clauſe *quam diu ſe bene geſſerit* was left out of their Patents, and a new Clauſe *Durante bene placito* inſerted. Lawyers have been checkt, for being faithfull to their Clients; Solicitors and Atturneyes have been threatned, and ſome puniſhed for following lawfull Suites: And by this means all the approaches to Juſtice were interrupted and forecluded. New Oaths have been forced upon the Subject againſt Law; new Judicatories erected without Law: The Councell Table have, by their Orders, offered to binde the Subjects in their free-holds Eſtates, Suites, and Actions. The pretended Court of the Earl *Marſhal* was Arbitrary, and Illegall in its being, and proceedings. The Chancery, Exchequer-Chamber, Court of Wards, and other Engliſh Courts have been grievous in exceeding their Juriſdiction. The eſtate of many Families weakned, and ſome ruined by exceſſive Fines, exacted from them for Compoſitions of Wardſhips. All Leaſes of above a hundred yeers, made to draw on Wardſhip contrary to Law. Undue proceedings uſed in the finding of Offices, to make the Jury finde for the King. The Common-Law Courts, ſeeing all Men more inclined to ſeek Juſtice there, where it may be fitted to their own deſire, are known frequently to forſake the Rules of the Common-Law, and ſtraining beyond their bounds, under pretence of equity to do Injuſtice. Titles of Honour, Judiciall places, Serjeantſhips at Law, and other Offices have been ſold for great ſummes of money; whereby the common Juſtice of the Kingdom hath been much endangered, not only by opening away of employment in places of great Truſt, and advantage to Men of weak parts; but alſo by giving occaſion to Bribery, Extortion, Partiality;

It

It seldome hapning that places ill-gotten are well used. Commissions have been granted for examining the excesse of Fees: and when great exactions have been discovered, Compositions have been made with Delinqents, not only for the time past, but likewise for immunity and security in offending, for the time to come; which under colour of remedy, hath but confirmed, and encreased the Grievance to the Subject. The usuall course of pricking Sheriffs, not observed, but many times Sheriffs made in an extraordinary way; somerimes as a punishment and charge unto them; sometimes such were pricked out, as would be Instruments to execute whatsoever they would have to be done.

The Bishops and the rest of the Clergy, did triumph in the Suspensions, Excommunications, Deprivations, and Degradations of divers painfull, learned, and pious Ministers, in the vexation, and grievous oppression of great numbers of His Maiesties good Subiects. The High-Commission grew to such excesse of sharpnesse and severity, as was not much lesse then the Romish Inquisition; and yet in many cases by the Archbishops power, was made much more heavy, being assisted, and strengthned by authority of the Councell-Table.

The Bishops, and their Courts, were as eager in the Country; and although their Jurisdiction could not reach so high in rigor, and extremity of punishment, yet were they no lesse grievous, in respect of the generality, and multiplicity of vexations, which lighting upon the meaner sort of Tradesmen, and Artificers, did impoverish many thousands, and so afflict and trouble others, that great numbers, to avoid their miseries, departed out of the Kingdom, some into *New-England*, and other parts of *America*, others into *Holland*, where they have transported their Manufactures of Cloath, which is not only a losse by diminishing the present stock of the Kingdom, but a great mischief by impairing and endangering the losse of that peculiar Trade of Cloathing, which hath been a plentifull Fountain of Wealth and Honour to this Nation. Those were fittest for Ecclesiasticall preferment, and soonest obtained it, who were most officious in promoting superstition, most virulent in railing against Godlinesse, and honesty.

The most publike and solemn Sermons before His Maiestie were, either to advance Prerogative above Law, and Decry the property of the Subject, or full of such kinde of invectives;

whereby

they might make those odious, who sought to maintain the Religion, Laws, and Liberties of the Kingdom; and such men were sure to be weeded out of the Commission of the Peace, and out of all other imployments of power in the Government of the Country. Many noble Personages were Councellors in name; but the power and authority remained in a few of such, as were most addicted to this partie; whose resolutions, and determinations were brought to the Table, for countenance, and execution, and not for debate, and deliberation; and no Man could offer to oppose them without disgrace, and hazard to himself: Nay, all those that did not wholly concurre and actively contribute to the furtherance of their designes, though otherwise persons of never so great Honour, and Abilities, were so farre from being employed in any place of Trust, and power, that they were neglected, discountenanced and upon all occasions injured and oppressed. This Faction was grown to that height, and entirenesse of power, that now they began to think of finishing their Work, which consisted of these three parts.

1. *The Government must be set free from all restraint of Lawes concerning our Persons and States.*

2. *There must be a Conjunction betwixt Papists and Protestants in Doctrine, Discipline, and Ceremonies; only it must not yet be called Popery.*

3. *The Puritans under which name, they include all those that desire to preserve the Lawes, and Liberties of the Kingdom, and to maintain Religion in the power of it; must be either rooted out of the Kingdom with force, or driven out with fear. For the effecting of this, It was thought necessary to reduce* Scotland *to such Popish superstitions, and Innovations, as might make them apt to joyn with* England, *in that great change, which was intended. Whereupon new Canons, and a new Liturgy were prest upon them; and when they refused to admit of them, an Army was raised to force them to it, towards which the Clergy, and the Papists were very forward in their contribution. The Scots likewise raised an Army for their defence; and when both Armies were come together, and ready for a bloudy encounter, His Majesties own Gracious disposition, and the Councell of the English Nobility, and Dutifull submission of the Scots, did so farre prevail against the evill Councell of others, that a Pacification was made, and His Majesty returned with Peace, and much honour to* London.

The

The unexpected reconciliation was moſt acceptable to all the Kingdome, except to the malignant partie, whereof the Archbiſhop and the Earle of Stafford being heads, they and their faction begun to enveigh againſt the Peace, and to aggravate the proceeding of the States, which ſo incenſed his Majeſtie, that he forthwith prepared againe for Warre. And ſuch was their confidence, that having corrupted and diſtempered the whole frame and Government of the Kingdome, they did now hope to corrupt that which was the onely means to reſtore all to a right frame and temper againe: to which end they perſwaded His Majeſtie to call a Parliament, not to ſeeke counſell and advice of them, but to draw Countenance and Supply from them, and engage the whole Kingdome in their Quarrell: and in the meane time, continued all their unjuſt Levies of Money, reſolving either to make the Parliament pliant to their Will, and to eſtabliſh miſchiefe by a Law, or elſe to breake it; and with more colour to goe on by violence, to take what they could not obtain by conſent. The ground alledged for the juſtification of this Warre was this:

That the unduti full Demands of the Parliaments of *Scotland*, was a ſufficient reaſon for His Majeſtie to take Armes againſt them, without hearing the Reaſon of thoſe Demands; And thereupon a new Armie was prepared againſt them, their Ships were ſeized in all Ports, both of *England* and *Ireland*, and at Sea. Their Petitions rejected; their Commiſſioners refuſed Audience. This whole Kingdome moſt miſerably diſtempered with Levies of Men and Money, and Impriſonments of thoſe who denied to ſubmit to thoſe Levies. The Earle of *Strefford* paſt into *Ireland*, cauſed the Parliament there to declare againſt the *Scots*, to give foure Subſidies towards that Warre; and to ingage themſelves, their lives and fortunes for the proſecution of it, and gave directions for an Army of eight thouſand foot, and one thouſand horſe, to be levied there, which were for the moſt part Papiſts. The Parliament met upon the thirteenth of *Aprill*, one thouſand ſix hundred and fortie. The Earle of *Strafford*, and Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, wi-

they might make those odious, who fought to maintain the Religion, Lawes and Liberties of the Kingdom; and such men were sure to be weeded out of the Commission of the Peace, and out of all other imployments of power to the Government of the Country. Many noble Personages were Councellors in name; but the power and authority remained in a few of such, as were most addicted to this partie; whose resolutions, and determinations were brought to the Table, for countenance, and execution, and not for debate, and deliberation; and no Man could offer to oppose them without disgrace, and hazard to himself: Nay, all those that did not wholly concurre and actively contribute to the furtherance of their designes, though otherwise persons of never so great Honour, and Abilities, were so farre from being employed in any place of Trust, and power, that they were neglected, discountenanced, and upon all occasions injured and oppressed. This Faction was grown to that height, and entire ende of power, that now they began to think of finishing their Work, which consisted of these three parts.

1. *The Government must be set free from all restraint of Lawes concerning our Persons and States.*

2. *There might be a Conjunction betwixt Papists and Protestants in Doctrine, Discipline, and Ceremonies; only it must not yet be called Popery.*

3. *The Puritans under which name, they include all those that desire to preserve the Lawes and Liberties of the Kingdom, and to maintain Religion in the power of it; must be either rooted out of the Kingdom with force, or driven out with fear. For the effecting of this, It was thought necessary to reduce Scotland to such Popish superstitions and Innovations, as might make them apt to joyn with England in that great change which was intended. Whereupon new Canons and a new Liturgy were prest upon them; and when they refused to admit of them, an Army was raised to force them to it, towards which the Clergy, and the Papists were very forward in their contribution. The Scots likewise raised an Army for their defence; and when both Armies were come together, and ready for a bloudy encounter, His Majesties own Gracious disposition, and the Councell of the English Nobility, and Dutifull submission of the Scots, did so farre prevail against the evill Councell of others, that a Pacification was made, and His Majesty returned with Peace, and much honour to London.*

The

The unexpected reconciliation was most acceptable to all the Kingdome, except to the malignant partie, whereof the Archbishop and the Earle of Stafford being heads, they and their faction begun to enveigh against the Peace, and to aggravate the proceeding of the States, which so incensed his Majestie, that he forthwith prepared againe for Warre. And such was their confidence, that having corrupted and distempered the whole frame and Government of the Kingdome, they did now hope to corrupt that which was the onely means to restore all to a right frame and temper againe: to which end they perswaded His Majestie to call a Parliament, not to seeke counsell and advice of them, but to draw Countenance and Supply from them, and engage the whole Kingdome in their Quarrell: and in the meane time, continued all their unjust Levies of Money, resolving either to make the Parliament pliant to their Will, and to establish mischiefe by a Law, or else to breake it; and with more colour to goe on by violence, to take what they could not obtain by consent. The ground alledged for the justification of this Warre was this:

That the unduti full Demands of the Parliaments of *Scotland*, was a sufficient reason for His Majestie to take Armes against them, without hearing the Reason of those Demands; And thereupon a new Armie was prepared against them, their Ships were seized in all Ports, both of *England* and *Ireland*, and at Sea. Their Petitions rejected; their Commissioners refused Audience. This whole Kingdome most miserably distempered with Levies of Men and Money, and Imprisonments of those who denied to submit to those Levies. The Earle of *Strafford* past into *Ireland*, caused the Parliament there to declare against the *Scots*, to give foure Subsidies towards that Warre; and to ingage themselves, their lives and fortunes for the prosecution of it, and gave directions for an Army of eight thousand foot, and one thousand horse, to be levied there, which were for the most part Papists. The Parliament met upon the thirteenth of *Aprill*, one thousand six hundred and fortie. The Earle of *Strafford*, and Archbishop of *Canterbury*, wi h-

their Party ſo prevailed with His Majeſty, that the *Houſe of Commons* was preſt to yeeld to a Supply for maintenance of the Warre with *Scotland*, before they had provided any reliefe for the great and preſſing Grievances of the people, which being againſt the fundamentall Priviledge and proceeding of Parliament, was yet in humble reſpect to his Majeſtie, ſo farre admitted, as that they agreed to take the matter of Supply into conſideration, & two ſeverall dayes it was debated. Twelve Subſidies were demanded for the releaſe of Ship-money alone; A third day was appointed for Concluſion, when the Heads of that Partie begun to feare the people might cloſe with the King in ſatisfying his deſire of Money: But that withall they were like to blaſt their malicious deſignes againſt *Scotland*, finding them very much indiſpoſed to give any countenance to that Warre.

Thereupon they wickedly adviſed the King to break off the Parliament, and to returne to the wayes of Confuſion, in which their own evill intentions were moſt like to proſper and ſucceed.

After the Parliament ended the fifth of *May*, one thouſand ſix hundred and fortie, this Partie grew ſo bold, as to counſell the King to Supply Himſelfe out of His Subjects ſtates by his own Power, at his own Will, without their conſent. The very next day, ſome *Members of both Houſes* had their Studies and Cabinets, yea their Pockets ſearched: Another of them not long after was committed cloſe priſoner, for not delivering ſome Petitions which he received by authority of that *Houſe*, and if harſher courſes were intended (as was reported) it is very probable that the ſickneſſe of the Earle of *Strafford*, and the Tumultuous riſing in *Southwarke*, and about *Lambeth*, were the cauſes that ſuch violent intentions were not brought to execution. A falſe and ſcandalous Declaration againſt the *Houſe of Commons*, was publiſhed in his Majeſties Name, which yet wrought little effect with the people, but only to manifeſt the impudence of thoſe who were Authors of it.

A forced Loan of Money was attempted in the Citie of *London*.

The Lord Major and Aldermen in their severall Wards enjoyned to bring in a list of the Names of such persons as they judged fit to lend, and of the summe they should lend. And such Aldermen as refused so to doe, were committed to prison.

The *Archbishop* and the other *Bishops* and *Clergie* continued the *Convocation*, and by a new Commission turned it to a *Provinciall Synod*, in which by an unheard-of presumption, they made *Canons* that containe in them many matters contrary to the Kings Prerogative, to the fundamentall Lawes and Statutes of the Realme, to the right of *Parliaments*, to the Propertie and Libertie of the Subject, and matters tending to sedition, and of dangerous consequence, thereby establishing their own Usurpations, justifying their Altar-worship, and those other superstitious Innovatiõs, which they formerly introduced without warrant of Law.

They imposed a new Oath upon divers of his Majesties Subjects, both *Ecclesiasticall* and *Lay*, for maintenance of their own Tyranny; and laid a great Tax upon the Clergie for supply of his Majestie; and generally they shewed themselves very affectionate to the Warre with *Scotland*, which was by some of them stiled *Bellum Episcopale*; and a Prayer composed, and enjoyned to be read in all Churches, calling the *Scots*, *Rebels*, to put the two Nations into blood, and make them irreconcileable. All those pretended *Canons* and *Constitutions* were armed with the severall Censures of *Suspension*, *Excommunication*, *Deprivation*, by which they would have thrust out all the good Ministers, and most of the well affected people of the Kingdome, and left an easie passage to their own Designe of Reconciliation with *Rome*. The *Popish* party enjoyned such Exemptions from the *Penall Lawes*, as amounted to a Tolleration, besides many other encouragements, and Court favours: They had a Secretary of State, Sr *Francis Windebank*, a powerfull Agent for the speeding of all their desires, a *Popes Nuntio* residing here to act and governe them according to such influences as he received from *Rome*, and to intercede

for them with the moſt powerfull concurrence of the forraigne Princes of that Religion: By his authoritie the *Papiſts* of all ſorts, Nobility, Gentry, and Clergie were convocated, after the manner of a *Parliament*; new Juriſdictions were erected of *Romiſh Archbiſhops*, Taxes levied, another State moulded within this State independant in Government, contrary in intereſt and affection, ſecretly corrupting the ignorant, or negligent profeſſors of our Religion, and cloſely uniting and combining themſelves againſt ſuch as were ſound, in this poſture waiting for an opportunitie by force to deſtroy thoſe whom they could not hope to ſeduce. For the effecting whereof, they were ſtrengthened with Armes and Munition, encouraged by ſuperſtitious Prayers, enjoyned by the *Nuntio* to be weekly made for the proſperitie of ſome great deſigne. And ſuch power had they at Court, that ſecretly a Commiſſion was iſſued out, intended to be iſſued to ſome great Men of that profeſſion for the levying of Souldiers, and to command and employ them according to private Inſtructions, which wee doubt were framed for the advantage of thoſe who were the contrivers of them: His Majeſties Treaſure was conſumed, his Revenue anticipated, His Servants and Officers compelled to lend great ſummes of Money; Multitudes were called to the *Councell Table*, who were tired with long attendances there, for refuſing illegall payments. The *Priſons* were filled with their Commitments; many of the Sheriffes ſummoned into the *Starre Chamber*, and ſome impriſoned for not being quicke enough in levying the Ship-money, the people languiſhed under griefe, and feare, no viſible hope being left, but in deſperation. The Nobility began to be weary of their ſilence, and patience, and ſenſible of the dutie and truſt which belongs to them: and thereupon ſome of the moſt eminent of them did petition his Majeſty at ſuch a time when evill Counſels were ſo ſtrong, that they had reaſon to expect more hazard to themſelves, then redreſſe of thoſe publike evils for which they interceded, whileſt the Kingdome was in this agitation and diſtemper, the *Scots* reſtrained in their trades, impoveriſhed by the loſſe of many of their Ships, bereaved of all poſſibilitie of ſatisfying His

Majeſtie

Majestie by any naked Supplication, entred with a powerfull Army into the Kingdome, and without any hostile Act or spoil in the Countrey as they passed, more then forcing a passage over the *Tyne* at *Newborne*, neer *Newcastle*, possessed themselves of *Newcastle*, and had a fair opportunitie to presse on further upon the Kings Armie: but dutie and Reverence to His Majestie, and brotherly love to the *English* Nation, made them stay there, whereby the King had leasure to entertain better Councels; wherein God so blessed and directed him, that he summoned the great Councell of Peers to meet at *Yorke*, upon the twentie fourth of September, and there declared a *Parliament* to begin the third of November then following. The *Scots* the first day of the great Councell, presented an humble Petition to His Majestie, whereupon the Treatie was appointed at *Rippon*. A present Cessation of Armes agreed upon: and the full Conclusion of all differences referred to the wisedome and care of the *Parliament*. At our first meeting, all Oppositions seemed to vanish, the mischiefes were so evident, which those evill Councellors produced, that no Man durst stand up to defend them. Yet the work it self afforded difficultie enough. The multiplied evils and corruption of sixteen yeers strengthened by custome and authoritie, and the concurrent interest of many powerfull delinquents were now to be brought to judgement and Reformation. The Kings Houshold was to be provided for, they had brought him to that want, that he could not supply his ordinarie, and necessarie expences, without the assistance of his people. Two Armies were to be payed, which amounted very neer to 80. thousand pounds a moneth; the people were to be tenderly charged, having been formerly exhausted with many burthensome Projects. The difficulties seemed to be insuperable, which by the Divine Providence we have overcome. The Contrarieties incompatible, which yet in a great measure we have reconciled. Six Subsidies have been granted, and a Bill of Poll-money, which if it be duely levied, may equall six Subsidies more in all, six hundred thousand pounds. Besides we have

contracted a Debt to the *Scots* of 220. thousand pounds; and yet God hath so blessed the endeavours of this *Parliament*, that the Kingdome is a great gainer by all these charges. The Ship-money is abolished, which cost the kingdome above 200. thousand pounds a yeer. The Coat and Conduct money, and other militarie charges, are taken away, which in many Countreys amounted to little lesse then the Ship-money. The Monopolies are all suppresst, whereof some few did preiudice the Subiect, above a Million yeerly. The Soap an hundred thousand pounds; the Wine three hundred thousand pounds; the Leather must needs exceed both: and Salt could be no lesse then that; besides the inferiour Monopolies, which if they could be exactly computed, would make up a great summe. That which is more beneficiall then all this is, that the root of these evils is taken away, which was the arbitrary power pretended to be in his Maiestie, of taxing the Subiect, or charging their estates without consent in *Parliament*, which is now declared to be against Law, by the iudgement of both *Houses*, and likewise by an Act of *Parliament*. Another step of great advantage is this: the living Grievances, the evill Councellors and Actors of these mischiefs have been so quelled, by the iustice done upon the Earl of *Strafford*, the flight of the Lord *Finch*, and Secretary *Windibank*, The accusation and imprisonment of the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, of Iudge *Bartley*, and the impeachment of divers other Bishops and Iudges, that it is like not onely to be an ease to the present times, but a preservation to the future. The discontinuance of *Parliaments* is prevented by the Bill for a *Triennial Parliament*, and the abrupt dissolution of this *Parliament* by another Bill; by which it is provided, it shall not be dissolved or adiourned without the consent of both *Houses*. Which two Laws well considered, may be thought more advantagious then all the former, because they secure a full operation of the present remedie, and afford a perpetuall Spring of remedies for the future: The Star-Chamber, the High Commission, the Courts of the President, and Councell in the North, were so many

forges

forges of miserie, oppression, and violence, and are all taken away, whereby men are more secured in their persons, liberties, and estates, then they could be by any Law or Example for the regulation of those Courts, or Terror of the Judges; The immoderate power of the *Councell Table*, and the excessive abuse of that power is so ordered and restrained, that we may well hope that no such things as were frequently done by them, to the preiudice of the publique libertie, will appear in future times but onely in Stories, to give us and our posteritie more occasion to praise God for his Maiesties goodnesse, and the faithfull endeavours of this *Parliament*. The *Canons*, and the power of *Canon* making, are blasted by the Vote of both *Houses*. The exorbitant power of *Bishops*, and their Courts, are much abated, by some Provisions in the Bill against the *High Commission Court*. The Authors of the many Innovations in Doctrine and ceremonies; The Ministers that have been scandalous in their lives, have been so terrified in iust complaints and accusations, that we may well hope they will be more modest for the time to come, either inwardly convicted by the sight of their own folly, or outwardly restrained by the fear of punishment. The *Forrests* are by a good Law reduced to their right bounds; the encroachments and oppressions of the *Stannarie Courts*; The Extortions of the *Clerk* of the Market, and the compulsion of the Subiect to receive the Order of Knight-hood against his will, paying of Fines for not receiving it, and the vexatious proceedings thereupon for levying of those Fines, are by other beneficiall Laws reformed and prevented. Many excellent Laws and provisions are in preparation for removing the inordinate power, vexation, and usurpation of *Bishops*, for reforming the pride and Idlenesse of many of the *Clergie*, for easing the people of unnecessarie ceremonies in Religion, for censuring and removing unworthy and unprofitable Ministers; and for maintaining godly and diligent Preachers through the Kingdome: Other things of many importance for the good of this Kingdome, are in proposition, though little could hitherto be done, in regard of

the

the many other more preſſing buſineſſes, which yet before the end of this Seſſion, we hope may receive ſome progreſſe and perfection. The eſtabliſhing and ordering the Kings Revenue, that ſo the abuſe of Officers, and ſuperfluitie of expences may be cut off, and the neceſſarie diſburſments for his Maieſties Honour, the defence and government of the Kingdome, may be more certainly provided for. The regulating of Courts of Juſtice, and abridging both the delayes and charges of Law Suits; The ſetling of ſome good courſes for preventing the exportation of Gold and Silver, and the inequality of exchanges betwixt us and other Nations, for the advancing of native Commodities, increaſe of our Manufactures, and well ballancing of Trade, whereby the Stock of the Kingdome may be increaſed, or at leaſt kept from impairing, as through neglect heretofore it hath done for many yeers laſt paſt; For improving the Herring fiſhing, upon upon our own Coaſts, which will be of mightie uſe in the imployment of the poore, and a plentifull Nurſerie of Mariners for inabling the Kingdome in any great Action. The oppoſitions, obſtructions, and other Difficulties wherewith we have been encountred, and which ſtill lie in our way with ſome ſtrength and much obſtinacie are theſe: The malignant Partie whom we have formerly deſcribed, to be the Actors and promoters of all our miſerie, they have taken heart again; They have been able to preferre ſome of their own Factors and Agents to degrees of honour, to places of truſt and imployment even during the *Parliament*. They have endeavoured to work in his Majeſtie ill impreſſions and opinions of Our proceedings, as if we had altogether done our own work, and not His, and had obtained from him many things very prejudiciall to the Crown, both in reſpect of Prerogative and Profit. To wipe out this ſlander, We think good onely to ſay thus much: That all that We have done, is for His Maieſtie, His greatneſſe, Honour, and ſupport, when We yeeld to give twenty five thouſand pound a moneth for the relief of the Northern Countreys,

this.

this was given to the King; for he was bound to protect his ſubjects, they were his Majeſties evill Counſellors, and their ill inſtruments that were actors in thoſe grievances which brought in the Scots: and if his Majeſty pleaſe to force thoſe who were the authors of this warre to make ſatisfaction, as he might juſtly and eaſily doe, it ſeemes very reaſonable that the people might well be excuſed from taking upon them this burden, being altogether innocent, and free from being any cauſes of it.

When we undertooke the charge of the army, which coſt above 50000. pound a moneth, was not this given to the King? was it not his Majeſties army? were not all the Commanders under contract with his Majeſty at higher rates and greater wages then ordinary? and have not we taken upon us to diſcharge all the brotherly aſſiſtance of three hundred thouſand pounds which we gave the Scots? was it not toward repaire of thoſe dammages and loſſes which they received from the Kings ſhips, and from his miniſters? Theſe three particulars amount to above 1100. thouſand pound, beſides his Majeſty hath received by impoſitions upon merchandiſe at leaſt 400. thouſand pounds; ſo that his Majeſty hath had out of the ſubjects purſe ſince the Parliament began, one million and halfe, and yet theſe men can be ſo impudent, as to tell his Majeſty, that we have done nothing for him. As to the ſecond branch of this ſlander, we acknowledge with much thankfulneſſe that his Majeſty hath paſſed more good Bils to the advantage of the ſubjects then have beene in many ages; but withall wee cannot forget, that theſe venomous counſels did manifeſt themſelves in ſome endeavours to hinder theſe good Acts: and for both Houſes of Parliament wee may with truth and modeſty ſay thus much, That we have ever beene carefull not to deſire any thing that ſhould weaken the Crowne either in juſt profit or uſefull power. The triennial Parliament, for the matter of it, doth not extend to ſo much as by Law we ought to have required, there being two Statutes ſtill in force for a Parliament to be once a yeere; and for the manner of it, it is in the Kings power, that it ſhall never take effect, if he by a timely ſummons

ſhall prevent any other way of aſſembling. In the Bill for continuance of this preſent Parliament, there ſeemes to be ſome reſtraint of the royall power in diſſolving of Parliaments, not to take it out of the crowne, but to ſuſpend the execution of it for this time and occaſion onely, which was ſo neceſſary for the Kings owne ſecurity, and the publique peace, that without it we could not have undertaken any of theſe great charges, but muſt have left both the armies to diſorder and confuſion, and the whole Kingdome to blood and rapin. The Starre-chamber was much more fruitfull in oppreſſion then in profit, the great fines being for the moſt part given away, and the reſt ſtalled at long times. The fines of the high Commiſſion were in themſelves unjuſt and ſeldome or never came into the Kings purſe. Theſe foure Bils are particularly and more ſpecially inſtanced, in the reſt there will not be found ſo much as a ſhadow of prejudice to the Crowne. They have ſought to diminiſh our reputation with the people, and to bring them out of love with Parliaments: the aſperſions which they have attempted this way, have been ſuch as theſe, That we have ſpent much time and done little, eſpecially in thoſe grievances which concerne Religion. That the Parliament is a burden to the Kingdome by the abundance of Protections which hinder Juſtice and Trade, and by many Subſidies granted, much more heavy then any they formerly endured; to which there is a ready anſwer: if the time ſpent in this Parliament be conſidered in relation backward to the long growth and deep root of thoſe grievances, which we have removed, to the powerfull upports of thoſe delinquents which we have purſued, to the great neceſſities and other charges of the Common wealth for which we have provided: or if it be conſidered in relation forward to many advantages, which not onely the preſent, but future ages are like to reap by the good lawes and other proceedings in this Parliament, we doubt not but it will be thought by all indifferent judgements that our time hath been much better imployed then in a farre greater proportion of time in many former Parliaments put together; and the charges which have beene laid upon the Subject, and the other incon-

inconveniences which they have borne will seem very light in respect of the benefit they have and may receive. And for the matter of protections, the Parliament is so sensible of it, that therein they intend to give them whatsoever ease may stand with Honour and Justice; and are in a way of passing a Bill to give them satisfaction. They have sought by many subtile practices, to cause jealousies and divisions betwixt us and our brethren of Scotland, by slandering their proceedings and intentions towards us, and by secret endeavours to instigate and incense them and us one against another. They have had such a party of Bishops & popish Lords in the house of Peeres, as hath caused much opposition and delay in the prosecution of delinquents, hindred the proceedings of divers good Bils passed in the Cõmons house, concerning the reformation of sundry great abuses and corruptions both in Church and State. They have laboured to seduce and corrupt some of the Commons House, to draw them into conspiracies and combinations against the liberty of the Parliament: And by their instruments and agents they have attempted to disaffect and discontent his Majesties Army, & to ingage it for the maintenance of their wicked and trayterous designes, the keeping up of Bishops in votes and functions, and by force to compell the Parliament to order, limit, and dispose their proceedings in such manner as might best concur with the intentions of this dangerons and potent faction: And when one mischievous designe, and attempt of theirs to bring on the Army against the Parliament, and the City of London had been discovered and prevented, they presently undertooke another of the same damnable nature, with this addition to it, to endeavour to make the Scotish Army neutrall, whilst the English Army which they had laboured to corrupt and invenome against us by their false and slanderous suggestions should execute their malice to the subversion of our religion and the dissolution of our government. Thus they have beene continually practizing to disturbe the peace, and plotting the destruction even of all the Kings dominions and have employed their emissaries and agents in them all for the promoting of their divellish designes which the vigilancy of

those who were well affected hath still discovered and defeated before they were ripe for execution in England and Scotland; onely in Ireland which was farther off, they have had time and oppertunity to mould and prepare their worke, and had brought it to that perfection that they had possessed themselves of that whole Kingdome, totally subverted the government of it, rooted out religion, and destroyed all the protestants whom the conscience of their duety to God, their King and Countrey would not have permitted to joyne with them, if by Gods wonderfull providence their maine enterprise upon the City and Castell of Dublin had not beene detected and prevented upon the very eave before it should have been executed. Notwithstanding they have in other parts of that Kingdome broken out into open rebellion, surprising Townes and Castels, committed murders, rapes, and other villanies; and shaken off all bonds of obedience to his Majesty, and the lawes of the Realme; and in generall have kindled such a fire, as nothing but Gods infinite blessing upon the wisedome and endeavours of this State will be able to quench it: and certainly had not God in his great mercy unto this Land discovered and confounded their former designes, wee had been the Prologue to this Tragedy in Ireland, and had by this time beene made the lamentable spectacle of misery and confusion. And now what hope have we but in God, when as the only means of our subsistance, and power of reformation is under him, in the Parliament; but what can we the Commons without the conjunction of the House of Lords, and what conjunction can we expect there, when the Bishops and recusant Lords are so numerous and prevalent, that they are able to crosse and interrupt our best endeavours for reformation, and by that meanes give advantage to this malignant party to traduce our proceedings. They infuse into the people, that we meane to abolish all Church government, and leave every man to his owne fancy for the service and worship of God, absolving him of that obedience which he owes under God unto his Majesty whom we know to be intrusted with the Ecclesiasticall law as well as with the temporall to regulate all the members of

the

the Church of England by ſuch rules of order and diſcipline as are eſtabiſhed by Parliament which is his great Councell, in all affaires both in Church and State. We confeſſe our intention is, and our endeavours have been to reduce within bounds that exorbitant power which the Prelates have aſſumed unto themſelves ſo contrary both to the Word of God, and to the Lawes of the Land, to which end we paſt the Bill for the removing them from their temporall power and employments, that ſo the better they might with meekneſſe apply themſelves to the diſcharge of their functions, which Bill themſelves oppoſed, and were the principall inſtruments of croſsing it.

And we doe here declare, that it is farre from our purpoſe or deſire to let looſe the golden reynes of diſcipline, and government in the Church, to leave private perſons or particular congregations to take up what forme of divine Service they pleaſe; for we hold it requiſite that their ſhould be throughout the whole realme a conformity to that order which the Laws enioyne, according to the Word of God: and we deſire to unburthen the conſciences of men of needleſſe and ſuperſtitious ceremonies, ſuppreſſe innovations, and take away the monuments of Idolatry. And the better to effect the intended reformation, we deſire there may be a generall Synod of the moſt grave, pious, learned and judicious Divines of this Iſland, aſſiſted with ſome from forraine parts profeſſing the ſame religion with us, who may conſider of all things neceſſary for the peace and good government of the Church, and repreſent the reſults of their conſultations unto the Parliament to be there allowed of and confirmed, and receive the ſtamp of authority thereby to finde paſſage and obedience throughout the Kingdome. They have maliciouſly charged us that we intend to deſtroy and diſcourage Learning, whereas it is our chiefeſt care and deſire to advance it, and to provide a competent maintenance for conſcionable and preaching Miniſters throughout the Kingdome, which will be a great encouragement to Scholers, and a certaine meanes whereby the want, meaneneſſe, and ignorance to which a great part of the Clergy is now ſubject, will be prevented. And we intend likewiſe to reform, and purge

the fountaines of learning the two Universities, that the streams flowing from thence may be cleere and pure, and an honour and comfort to the whole Land. They have strayned to blast our proceedings in Parliament by wresting the interpretations of our Orders from their genuine intention. They tell the people that our medling with the power of Episcopacy, hath caused sectaries and conventicles, when idolatry and popish ceremonies introduced into the Church by the command of the Bishops have not onely debarred the people from thence, but expelled them from the Kingdome. Thus with *Eliah* we are called by this malignant party the troublers of the State, and still while we endevour to reforme their abuses, they make us the authours of those mischiefes we study to prevent: for the perfecting of the worke begun and removing all future impediments, we conceive these courses will be very effectuall, seeing the religion of the papists hath such principals as doe certainly tend to the destruction and extirpation of all Protestants when they shall have opportunity to effect it.

It is necessary in the first place to keep them in such condition, as that they may not be able to doe us any hurt, and for avoyding of such connivence and favour as hath heretofore been shewed unto them, That his Majesty be pleased to grant a standing Commission to some choice men named in Parliament, who may take notice of their increase, their counsels and proceedings, and use all due meanes by execution of the Laws to prevent any mischievous designes, against the peace and safety of this Kingdome. That some good course be taken to discover the counterfeit and false conformity of papists to the Church by colour whereof persons very much disaffected to the true religion have been admitted into place of greatest authority and trust in the Kingdome.

For the better preservation of the Lawes and liberties of the Kingdome, that all illegall grievances and exactions be presented and punished at the Sessions, and Assizes: and that Judges and Justices be carefull to give this in charge to the grand Jury, and both the Sheriffe and Justices to be sworn to the due execution of the petition of right and other Lawes: That his Majesty

Majeſty be humbly petitioned by both Houſes to employ ſuch Counſellors, Ambaſſadors, and other Miniſters in mannaging his buſineſſe at home and abroad, as the Parliament may have cauſe to confide in, without which we cannot give his Majeſty ſuch ſupplies for ſupport of his owne eſtate, nor ſuch aſſiſtance to the proteſtant party beyond the Sea, as is deſired. It may often fall out that the Commons may have juſt cauſe to take exceptions at ſome men for being Counſellors, and yet not charge thoſe men with crimes, for there be grounds of diffidence which lie not in proofe; there are others which though they may be proved yet are not legally criminall; to be a known favourer of papiſts, or to have been very forward in defending or countenancing ſome great offenders queſtioned in Parliament, or to ſpeake contemptuouſly of either Houſes of Parliament, or Parliamentary proceedings, or ſuch as are factours or agents for any forraine Prince of another religion, ſuch are juſtly ſuſpect to get Counſellors places or any other of truſt concerning publique imployment for money: For all theſe and divers others we may have great reaſon to be earneſt with his Majeſty not to put his great affaires into ſuch hands, though we may be unwilling to proceed againſt them in any legall way of charge or impeachment: That all Counſellors of State may be ſworne to obſerve thoſe Lawes which concerne the Subject in his liberty, that they may likewiſe take an oath not to receive or give reward or penſion from any forraine Prince, but ſuch as they within ſome reaſonable time diſcover to the Lords of his Majeſties Councell: and although they ſhould wickedly forſweare themſelves, yet it may herein doe good to make them known to be falſe and perjured to thoſe who imploy them, and thereby bring them into as little credit with them as with us. That his Majeſty may have cauſe to be in love with good counſell and good men, by ſhewing him in an humble and dutifull manner, how full of advantage it would be to himſelfe, to ſee his owne eſtate ſetled in a plentifull condition to ſupport his honour, to ſee his people united in waies of duty to him and endeavours of the publique good; to ſee happineſſe, wealth, peace and ſafety derived to his owne Kingdome,

F 132424
E222 1A. 2

dome, and procured to his Allies by the influence of his owne power and government. That all good courſes may be taken to unite the two Kingdomes of England and Scotland to be mutually ayding and aſſiſting one another for the common good of the Iſland, and honour of both. To take away all differences amongſt our ſelves for matters indifferent in their owne nature concerning religion, and to unite our ſelves againſt the common enemies, which are the better inabled by our diviſions to deſtroy us all, as they hope and have often endeavoured. To labour by all offices of friendſhip to unite the forrain Churches with us in the ſame cauſe, and to ſeek their liberty, ſafety, and proſperity, as bound thereunto both by charity to them, and by wiſdome for our own good. For by this means our own ſtrength ſhall be encreaſed, and by a mutuall concurrence to the ſame common end, we ſhall be enabled to procure the good of the whole body of the Proteſtant profeſsion. If theſe things may be obſerved, we doubt not but God will crown this Parliament with ſuch ſucceſſe as ſhall be the beginning and foundation of more honour and happineſſe to his Majeſty, then ever yet was enjoyed by any of his Royall Predeceſſors.

FINIS.